

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 117788

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 TRSE-00 H-01 L-03 AGR-05
EB-07 AID-05 OMB-01 OES-07 FEA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06
/080 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB - LLROCKE:MFG

APPROVED BY EA - RHOLBROOKE

EA - EHEGINBOTHAM

-----212114Z 124855 /62

R 211316Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 117788

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TH, PDIP, ASEAN

SUBJECT: THAI AMBASSADOR CALLS ON EA

SUMMARY: THAI AMBASSADOR ARUN PHANUPHONG PAID COURTESY
CALLS ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE AND DEPUTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY HEGINBOTHAM MAY 19. AMBASSADOR
INDICATED APPRECIATION FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN RESTORATION OF \$8 MILLION MAP ITEM IN SENATE
COMMITTEE. HE ALSO WANTED INVITE SECRETARY OF AGRICUL-
TURE TO VISIT THAILAND IN JUNE. AMBASSADOR TOLD DEPUTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY NO SPECIAL ECONOMIC ISSUES EXISTED
BETWEEN US BUT HE HOPED FOR INCREASED U.S. INVESTMENT IN
THAILAND TO BALANCE LARGER JAPANESE PRESENCE. HE ALSO
INDICATED LOCAL ASEAN AMBASSADORS IN WASHINGTON ARE
PLANNING MEET MONTHLY AND CREATE SECRETARIAT TO DISCUSS
MUTUAL ISSUES FOLLOWING PATTERN NOW USED IN BRUSSELS.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 117788

END SUMMARY.

1. IN RESPONSE TO HOLBROOKE'S QUERY ARUN ADMITTED HE
HAD NOT YET POUCHED HIS REPORT TO BANGKOK ON HIS MAY 13
MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS EXCEL-
LENT. HE MAY HAVE SUMMARIZED THE HIGHLIGHTS BY TELEX
BUT HE WAS NOT CLEAR. ARUN HAS NOT YET CALLED ON

DR. BOURNE AS SUGGESTED BY THE PRESIDENT.

2. ARUN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR HOLBROOKE'S SUCCESSFUL LOBBYING EFFORTS IN THE SENATE TO RESTORE THE \$8 MILLION MAP AMOUNT FOR FY 78. HE THEN INDICATED HE WANTED TO INVITE AGRICULTURE SECRETARY BERGLAND TO VISIT THAILAND BEFORE OR AFTER HE ATTENDS A FOOD COUNCIL MEETING IN MANILA. WE PROMISED TO FOLLOW UP. HOLBROOKE EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD NOT VISITED THAILAND ON HIS RECENT EA TRIP BECAUSE OUR AMBASSADOR HAD RECOMMENDED AGAINST IT DURING A CONGRESSIONAL VISIT AND NARCOTICS CONFERENCE. ARUN PROMISED TO ASSURE RTG OF CONTINUING U.S. INTEREST IN MAINTENANCE OF FREE AND INDEPENDENT THAILAND.

3. IN HIS CONVERSATION WITH HEGINBOTHAM, ARUN NOTED WITH PLEASURE THE ABSENCE OF ANY SPECIAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS BETWEEN U.S. AND THAILAND. HE FELT GENERAL KRIANGSAK'S RECENT TRIP HELPED IMMENSELY TO IMPROVE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING. ARUN WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH U.S. INDICATION OF STRONG INTEREST AND SUPPORT IN ASEAN. ARUN WAS PHILOSOPHICAL ABOUT CONGRESSIONAL ATTEMPTS TO REDUCE MAP BECAUSE HE UNDERSTOOD THAILAND WAS NOT THE ONLY COUNTRY FACING REDUCTIONS. THE AMOUNT WAS NOT AS IMPORTANT AS FACT U.S. STILL PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR ITS FRIENDS.

4. ARUN TOLD HEGINBOTHAM THAILAND WOULD LIKE "DEEPER" ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH U.S., ESPECIALLY INVESTMENTS. HE RECOGNIZED IT WAS UP TO RTG TO IMPROVE INVESTMENT CLIMATE BY ASSURING POLITICAL STABILITY AND IMPROVING RTG LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 117788

ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE. RTG WANTS TO BALANCE LARGE JAPANESE INVESTMENTS WITH THOSE FROM U.S. RTG PLANS TO MAKE THAILAND A SHOWCASE TO SHOW WHAT A FREE COUNTRY CAN DO IN COMPARISON WITH ITS COMMUNIST NEIGHBORS. HE NOTED THAT RECENT SRV VISITORS IN BANGKOK DURING ESCAP PLENARY MENTIONED THAT PROSPERITY THEY SAW AROUND THEM WAS RESULT OF THAILAND'S CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH U.S.

5. ARUN ADMITTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN A RECENT SLOWDOWN IN NEW INVESTMENT BECAUSE OF UNCERTAINTY REGARDING DURABILITY OF CURRENT GOVERNMENT AND POSSIBILITY OF NEW LEGISLATION. "WHEN THE DUST SETTLES, THE SITUATION WILL IMPROVE." ARUN CLAIMED RTG WAS STILL DETERMINING THE REAL COSTS AND BENEFITS OF CONSUMING OFFSHORE NATURAL GAS. THAI GEOLOGISTS BELIEVE THE LARGEST POOL OF GAS LIES UNDER THE DISPUTED ZONE IN THE GULF OF THAILAND WHERE CLAIMS OF THAILAND, SRV AND CAMBODIA OVERLAP.

6. ARUN INDICATED AMBASSADORS OF ASEAN COUNTRIES IN

WASHINGTON ARE PLANNING CREATE A SECRETARIAT SUCH AS
EXISTS IN BRUSSELS TO DISCUSS MUTUA' ISSUES AT REGULAR

MONTHLY MEETINGS. HEGINBOTHAM SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE
HELPFUL TO KNOW HOW U.S. CAN RELATE THIS PROPOSED SECRE-
TARIAT TO OUR OFFICIAL DIALOGUE WITH ASEAN THROUGH
PHILIPPINE MFA.

7. AMBASSADOR ARUN DEPARTS FOR NEW YORK MAY 22 WHERE HE
WILL LEAD THE THAI DELEGATION TO THE LOS CONFERENCE. CHRISTOPHER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, AMBASSADORS MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE117788
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LLROCKE:MFG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770182-0476
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770531/aaaabaog.tel
Line Count: 126
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 25e5428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2420246
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THAI AMBASSADOR CALLS ON EA SUMMARY: THAI AMBASSADOR ARUN PHANUPHONG PAID COURTESY CALLS ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE AND DEPUTY
TAGS: PDIP, TH, ASEAN, (ARUN PHANUPHONG), (HOLBROOKE, RICHARD)
To: BANGKOK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/25e5428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009